Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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TAGS: UN PFOR NZ NE

SUBJ: UNGA FOURTH COMMITTEE DEBATE ON NIUE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS

FOR TTPI

REF: USUN 5456

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. NEW ZEALAND REP INTRODUCED NIUE ITEM TO FOURTH COMMITTEE NOV 26, EMPHASIZING THAT WITH FREE ASSOCIATION NIUEANS ARE NOW COMPLETELY IN CHARGE OF THEIR OWN AFFAIRS. HE INTRODUCED MR. M. Y. VIVIAN, NIUEAN MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECUATION, ECONOMIC DIVISION AND TOURISM, TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF NIUE GOVT. VIVIAN REPORTED THAT NIUE HAD OBTAINED FULL SELF-GOVERNMENT ON NOV 19, 1974. HE STRESSED THAT NIUE'S CONSTITULIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TION CONTAINED SOME UNUSUAL CONCEPTS, NAMELY: (1) NIUE RUNS

ITS OWN AFFAIRS, AND (2) IT MAINTAINS CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH NEW ZEALAND. VIVIAN SAID NIUE SOLUTION OF FREE ASSOCIATION REPRESENTED IDEAL ONE FOR PECULIAR CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS ISLAND STATE AND HE SUGGESTED NIUE AS A MODEL FOR OTHER SMALL TERRITORIES WHICH WILL BE IN PROCESS OF EXERCISING SELF-DETERMINATION.

2. TANZANIA PERMREP SALIM, SPEAKING AS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF 24 AND AS CHAIRMAN OF 1972 VISITING MISSION TO NIUE, STATED THAT ACT OF SELF-DETERMINATION WAS UNEQUIVOCAL AND THAT SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY OF NIUEANS FAVORED FREE ASSOCIATION. HE CHARACTERIZED NUE SITUATION AS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CHAPTER COMPLETED IN HISTORY OF DECONOLIZATION, ADDING THAT NO LONGER WOULD IT BE NECESSARY FOR UN TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ON NUIE AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY. SALIM STRESSED SIGNIFICANCE OF NIUE CASE IN THAT WISHES TO ITS PEOPLE WRE SUPREME, THAT NIUEANS KNEW ALL OPTIONS WERE OPEN TO THEM AND HAVE MADE THEIR FREE CHOICE. THEREFORE, HE ASSERTED, "COMMITTEE OF 24 ASKS NO MORE" SALIM SUGGESTED THAT THERE WAS INSUFFICIENT UNDERSTANDING BY OTHER ADMINISTERING POWERS (HE SPECIFICALLY RULED OUT AUSTRALIA) OF NEED TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH UN AS HAD NEW ZEALAND. HE CONSIDERED SUCH COOPERATION TO BE IN BEST INTERESS OF ALL CONCERNED--PEOPLE THEMSELVES, UN, AND EVEN ADMINISTERING POWERS.

3. TADESSE OF ETHIOPIA, SPEAKING AS CHAIRMAN F SPECIAL MISSION TO NIUE WHICH OBSERVED ELECTION, STRESSED THAT REAL ACHIEVEMENTS ARE POSSIBLE WHEN COOPERATION AND GOODWILL EXIST ON ALL SIDES. HE SPOKE OF FULL FREEDOM GRANTED MISSION TO OBSERVE ELECTIONS AND PREPARATIONS FOR ACT OF SELF-DERTERMINATION BY ADMINISTERING POWER AND GOVT. CLEARLY, HE STATED, PEOPLE HAD EXERCISED RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION FREELY. END UNCLASSIVIED

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4. COMMENT: ENDORSEMENT BY COMMITTEE OF 24 CHAIRMAN SALIM ASSURES PASSAGE BY THIS UNGA SESSION OF RES WHICH REMOVES NIUE FROM LIST OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES AND, IN EFFECT, RECOGNIZES THAT NIUE'S ACT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SELF-DETERMINATION IN FAVOR OF FREE ASSOCIATION MADE IT SELF-GOVERNING UNDER TERMS OF UN CHARTER. WE BELIEVE STRATEGY FOLLOWED BY NEW ZEALAND IN SECURING RARE UN ENDORSEMENT OF POLITICAL STATUS FALLING SHORT OF INDEPENDENCE DESERVES OUR CAREFUL STUDY AND POSSIBLE EMULATION WHEN WE EVENTUALLY ATTEMPT TO SECURE UN APPROVAL OF MICRONESIA'S STATUS. CRUCIAL ELEMENT IN NEW ZEALAND'S STRATEGY WAS PRESENCE UN VISITING MISSION DURING ACT OF SELF-DETERMINATION.

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